



# SIDETRACK



December 2019

## ...NEWS, VIEWS AND BREWS...

*"Will you love me in December as you do in May?"*

- Jack Kerouac

### T'WAS THE DAZE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

T'was just days before Christmas  
Sidetrack's crowd getting loose.  
The creatures aren't stirring,  
not even the Moose.

The customers nestled in chairs at their tables  
talking of Santa and all he enables.  
No pressure packed Christmas Day this year because,  
we have what we call our Insanity Clause.

From our table of eight there arose such a clatter.  
Early shopping for gifts, does it all really matter?  
TV's and Smart Phones, Nintendo D.S.  
Crock pots and toasters...but we acquiesce.

Let's all stay right here and to heck with the mall -  
24 cold draft beers, it's the 'Track's beckon call.  
36!

Now Dark Horse! Now Amstel! Now Dog Fish Head Ninety  
On Foster's! On Guinness! On La Fin du Monde!  
Anchor Steam, Hacker Pschorr, Blue Moon Belgium White.  
The Barkeep announces, "Last call for the night!"

"You don't have to go home, but you can't stay here -  
but it's Christmas in Ypsi. I'll buy you a beer."  
Our Holiday wishes, without getting sappy -  
Beer is the proof Santa wants us all to be happy.

## IN WINE, THERE'S TRUTH

What better time of year to roll out a brand new wine list?

**Classic, fun, and approachable - our new list has something for everyone. Try out a new vino during our daily happy hours or ALL day on Wine Wednesdays!**

## WEDNESDAY IS WINESDAY!

*"Wine makes all things possible"*

—George R.R. Martin




## HALF OFF WINE...

 **HALF OFF BY THE GLASS**

 **HALF OFF BOTTLES**

**OR...**

 **BUY ONE BOTTLE,  
GET ONE TO TAKE HOME!**



**Check out our new wine loft!  
Available for private parties.**

## WINE LIST

### REDS

	GLASS	BOTTLE
LOUIS MARTINI CABERNET SAUVIGNON	10	42
DARK HORSE CABERNET SAUVIGNON	7	28
DROUHI PINOT NOIR	11	44
SEAGLASS PINOT NOIR	10	42
SKELETON MALBEC	8	36
EGRI SOFT MERLOT	7	28
CITRA MONTEPULCIANO D'ABRUZZO	6	24

...

### WHITES & BUBBLES

	GLASS	BOTTLE
STORYPOINT CHARDONNAY	9	40
POMELO CHARDONNAY UNOAKED	8	36
ECCO DOMANI PINOT GRIGIO	8	36
KUNG FU GIRL RIESLING	8	36
CUPCAKE SAUVIGNON BLANC	6	24
BELLA SERA MOSCATO	7	28
CANYON ROAD WHITE ZINFANDEL	6	24
MAWBY SEX BRUT ROSE	10	42
LUNETTA PROSECCO SPLIT	8	

*"Every empty bottle of wine  
is filled with a great story"*



## SHORT TAKES



Sunday, November 24th, was the date for the Depot Town Tree Lighting Ceremony. Twenty members of the Ypsilanti Community Choir led almost 1000 people in singing Christmas carols prior to the 6:15 arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus. Santa's #1 reserve reindeer Belle was on hand and - after the tree was lit - followed all to the Ypsilanti Automotive Museum for one on one time with Santa, free cookies, cider, hot chocolate, reindeer photos, caroling by the Ann Arbor Boy's Choir and lots more!

Summit St. was closed across from E.M.U. for 6 weeks while Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority did extensive repair and maintenance work to the legendary 147' tall Ypsilanti Water Tower, officially declared the most phallic building in the world. With work completed just before Thanksgiving, YCUA said the problem was a form of erectile dysfunction.

We continue to tweak our incredible Sunday self serve Bloody Mary Bar. Two sausages; two types of olives; three cheeses; shrimp; faux crab; artichoke hearts; beets; pickles; FIFTY (!) hot sauces; lots of spices, condiments; sauces; three mixes and lots more - well over 100 items. Also on Sundays, Mimosas and Beermosas - wheat beer, O.J. with a touch of champagne... and don't forget about our Sunday Brunch with 3 rotating brunch selections!

So we're watching Judge Greg Mathis on TV last week and from the audience, Judge Mathis introduces Emoni Bates from Ypsilanti. Emoni is an Ypsilanti Lincoln High School basketball player and not only considered the best high school prospect in the Country, but was featured on the cover of a late October Sports Illustrated magazine. On air, Judge Mathis encouraged Emoni to attend Eastern Michigan University, from where Judge Mathis graduated with a B.S. In Public Administration.

Spearheaded by Barry LaRue, a good friend of the Sidetrack, the restoration of the historic Starkweather Chapel at the Highland Cemetery on N. River St., (a few blocks north of the 'Track), is nearing completion. New heating and air conditioning, the restoration of the plaster walls and brick and everything from the vaulted ceilings to the grandiose doors and stain glass windows. When completed, the Starkweather will be offered to the public as a unique venue for private parties, meetings, gatherings and more. Respect to Barry and everybody else responsible!

Who Knew!!? We just found out that the Sidetrack was listed as a Neighborhood Favorite by Nextdoor.com. This is an annual designation that we're proudly sharing with Knight's Steak House, Ann Arbor; Barnes And Noble Bookstore, Ann Arbor; The Emagine Theater, Canton, and other area businesses. Our goal since day one was to be your favorite neighborhood corner Bar and Grill!

There was one other thing that we were going to list here, but it seems we forgot what it was....Oh, yeah! Sunday, December 1st, marks the first day that Recreational Marijuana is legal. So far, only 3 dispensaries in Ann Arbor have the O.K. To sell, and the lines to get in were longer than all of Trump's tweets combined.

## HOLIDAY HOURS

**CHRISTMAS EVE: 11AM-6PM**

(the perfect time to stop in for a break from the madness,  
some last minute gifts and a growler of beer for Santa)

**CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY**



## OUR LINE UP OF PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFTS

Gift cards in any amount • Tee Shirts from kids to adult XX  
Crew Sweat Shirts • Hoodies • Zip Ups • Infant Onesies •  
Doggie Tees(!) • Ball Caps • Winter Hats • Growlers Filled  
With Your Favorite Beer • Pint Glasses

*Ask your Server!*

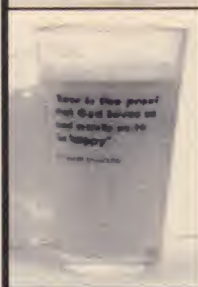
### THE ART OF GIFTING

We asked 100 random Ypsilantians what they would really like for holidays. No ridiculous requests like a million dollars, X - Ray vision, or that world peace stuff - but something feasible, realistic and easily attainable.

86 of the 100 people we asked, said that what they would love to receive as a gift would be a Sidetrack gift card, a tee shirt, a sweatshirt, a cap or any of the awesome Sidetrack merch., all with Ben Franklin's beer saying.

Friends or relatives who live out of town? Go to [sidetrack-bar-and-grill.myshopify.com/collections/mens-clothing](http://sidetrack-bar-and-grill.myshopify.com/collections/mens-clothing) for easy, one step holiday shopping! We'll wrap\*, package and mail it for you along with a small gift tag identifying you as the sender with impeccable taste in Burgers, beer, and Sidetrack swag.

\*Please Include the recipient's address in the notes before check out.





## YPSI IS HAPPY TO SEE YOU



Ypsilanti  
Water  
Tower  
Candle

We've written here many times more than once that in 2007, Cabinet Magazine named the Ypsilanti Water Tower "The World's Most Phallic Building", a title that it holds onto tightly. Erection was completed in 1897, and today the Ypsilanti Water Tower actually has its own Facebook page. You may now poke the Water Tower.

Here's the Water Tower basics. It's made from limestone, it's 147 feet tall, the walls at the bottom are 40" thick and tapers to 24" at the top. Builders installed 3 different crosses in the stonework to protect themselves from injury. When in full operation, the Water Tower held a quarter of a million gallons of water, and the final cost was \$21,368 - the price today of a Honda Civic or, as Sidetrack bartender - slash - server Dylan said without hesitation, "That's exactly 1.068.40 lap dances".

We couldn't be more proud.

WANT TO GIVE THE GIFT OF THE WATER TOWER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON? YOU ARE IN LUCK! YPSI STRIKES AGAIN WITH THE YPSILANTI WATER TOWER CANDLE CO.

GO TO

[makervlog.wordpress.com/tower-candles/](http://makervlog.wordpress.com/tower-candles/)

GET YOURS TODAY!

## PUMPKIN LOVERS REJOICE, SIDETRACK IS YOUR SPOT FOR ALL THINGS PUMPKIN THIS YEAR.



PUMPKIN PIE!  
PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE!  
PUMPKIN BEER!  
PUMPKIN TACOS!

(Just kidding on that last one... for now)

## !LAST CALL! 2019 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: CHRISTMAS IN SPACE

## Christmas IN SPACE

Join The Sidetrack and The Enchanted Florist for this annual charity event that is fun for the whole family! The past ten years have been SUCH a huge hit that we are hosting Santa for Breakfast TWICE this year, at 9am AND 10:30am!! Two seatings means more greetings- AND DONATIONS!

Bring the kids down to Frenchie's on December 14th to write a letter to Santa, while enjoying eggs and ham, pastries, fresh fruit and juice. After, we will make our way to The Enchanted Florist to take photos with Santa, give him his letter and maybe even get a little gift!

This event is free but we asked that you bring a donation of either a new pack of cotton/ wool socks or gloves or mittens/hat (Per child) PLEASE, NO DONATIONS OF FOOD!

Also, because space is limited, registration is REQUIRED and can be done by calling the Enchanted Florist at 734-547-9230.

FYI - This year the event is B.Y.O.C.

- Bring Your Own Camera!

## GET YOUR GLÖGG ON



Glögg is a traditional Scandinavian drink enjoyed during Christmas time. Served hot, glögg often consists of red wine, brandy, and port infused with spices, raisins & citrus... and man, does it smell good!

The history of glögg dates back to the 1400s when a spiced wine called 'Hippocras' was sold by Scandinavian & European merchants.

?Unsurprisingly named for Hippocrates, this wine was thought to have healing influences over muscle ailments and other maladies... and it's no wonder why- there's little that a warm, comforting (and boozy!) drink doesn't help fix!

At one point, glögg was SO popular that folks were rushing to put their own regional spin on the drink. King Gustav I of Sweden renamed the German version of mulled wine with spices to "glodgad vin" in the early 1600's and, by the mid-1800's, "glögg" became the shortened version, meaning literally "to glow."

This glowing physical description is attributed to the spices that used (and what your face does after just one potent drink!!)

But you don't have to catch a flyvningen Nørresundby to enjoy glögg for yourself- Due to overwhelming demand, Sidetrack will be bringing back our homemade glögg, starting on December 5th !

Stop in and get glowing!



## NEED ASSISTANCE?!?

We can help with your Holiday parties or catering at the 'Track, your home or your office. We have four private areas for your party with seating for up to 60 guests. Bird Brain, the loft above Bird Brain, the intimate Baggage Room, and our recently enclosed and heated 'outdoor' back patio.

Our full menu, a limited custom menu, or a buffet. We'll work within your wants, your needs, and your budget.



Call 734.483.1035 or email Jessica at: [jessicajane french@yahoo.com](mailto:jessicajane french@yahoo.com)

## PUN INTENDED



I just started building yachts in my attic. Sails are going through the roof!

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Is it possible to take epidermis from one person's buttocks and graft it to another? Arse skin for a friend.

\*\*\*

My friend David had his ID stolen. Now he's just Dav.

\*\*\*

I shot a man with a paintball gun just to watch him dye.

\*\*\*

Before the crowbar was invented crows just had to drink at home.

\*\*\*

Q: Why do Norwegian ships have barcodes?

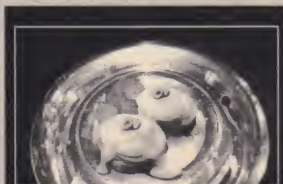
A: So you can scan da navy in.

\*\*\*

I tried calling the tinnitus hotline but nobody answered... it just kept ringing and ringing.

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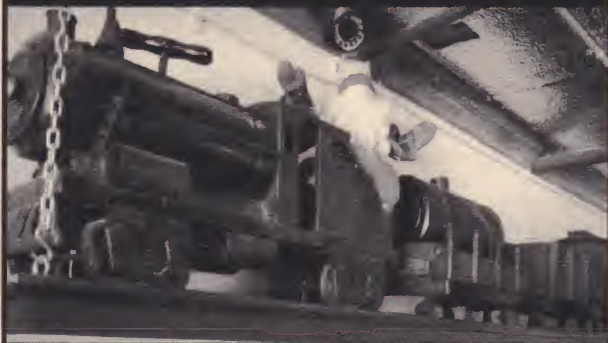
I have a fear of over-engineered buildings- it's a complex complex complex.



Eggs Benedict served on a hubcap because there's no plate like chrome for the hollandaise



## GET BACK ON THE TRAIN?



Sometime in December, one of our guests asked a server, "What's the deal with the train on the wall?"

At first, we thought he was doing a bad Seinfeld impression - but we realized he was asking about the 8' five piece locomotive and train on the back wall of the Sidetrack.

So much of what is on the walls of the Sidetrack is unique, and nothing more so than this one of a kind vintage train which was presented to us as an opening day gift by a Northville friend, professor, and antiques dealer in 1985.

The locomotive is a mass produced pressed steel child's riding toy made by the Keystone Manufacturing Company in the early 1930's. Steel was the material of choice for heavy duty long lasting toys for durability with large machines cutting and pressing the steel into the desired shapes. The wooden handle at the top of the locomotive would allow the rider to steer, and the open space in the coal tender behind the seat was a great place for kids to place some personal belongings.

The heyday for pressed steel toys was in the 1920's - 1930's, as Keystone competed with other manufacturers of large pressed steel toys including Kingsbury, Buddy L, Sturdi - Toys and many others.

Available to lucky kids was everything from steamshovels and dump trucks to elaborate water pumping fire trucks with hydraulic ladders, ambulances, buses, and more. Some of the rarer examples of antique pressed steel toys sell for thousands of dollars at auction.

We, along with our Northville professor / antiques dealer friend, theorize that the four other train cars were hand made by a talented Dad for his lucky kid. Made from wood and metal with windows, wheels, sliding doors and made perfectly to scale, the Tank Car, Hopper, Box Car and Caboose were all painted red and black to match the locomotive's now worn original red and black enamel finish.

## NOW ON TAP:



### SHORTS BREWING- A LONG WAY TOGETHER

A Long Long Way Together is an India Pale Ale brewed with Sabro & Galaxy hops. Tropical and citrusy in both aroma and flavor, this beer was brewed for all of the bars and restaurants who have kept the Short's brews flowing in your neighborhood for the last 15 years. Consider this brew love and gratitude in liquid form!



### BELL'S BREWING- BRIGHT WHITE:

An alternative to dark and heavy winter warmers and stouts, Bright White (formerly Winter White) is a stylish and refreshing Wheat Ale. Fermented with a Belgian ale yeast, this blend of barley and wheat malts yields a mixture of clove and fruity aromas; all without the use of any spices.



### GREAT LAKES BREW CO., CHRISTMAS ALE:

Do not open 'til Christmas? Whoever coined that phrase obviously hasn't tasted Christmas Ale's fresh honey, cinnamon, and ginger flavors. A Yuletide's worth of holiday spices and sweet honey to keep you a-wassailing all season long.

THIS BREW IS A 6-Time Medal Winner (Gold, Silver) at the WORLD BEER CHAMPIONSHIPS!

## COCKTAIL OF THE MONTH



# BAD SANTA

**THIS IS ONE BAD HOLIDAY MARGARITA**



**Corazon Tequila, Malibu Rum,  
Triple Sec, Lemon Juice,  
Lime Juice and Simple Syrup  
Shaken with Coconut Milk.  
Topped with Cranberries,  
a Red Sugar Rim and a Lime Slice.**

*Yule Love It!*



**56 E. CROSS STREET • DEPOT TOWN • YPSILANTI**

**CALL 734.483.1035**

**[www.sidetrackbarandgrill.com](http://www.sidetrackbarandgrill.com)**

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